

**BOSTON RURAL DISTRICT
COUNCIL**



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Sanitary Inspectors

for the year

1949

1949

BOSTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman of the Council:

Councillor R. POCKLINGTON, J.P.

Clerk of the Council:

S. M. FORMAN.

Staff of the Public Health Department:

Medical Officer of Health (Part-time):

D. C. ROBERTSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Petroleum Inspector:

B. V. BRODIE, C.R.S.I., F.F.Sc., M.S.I.A.

Sanitary Inspector, Public Cleansing Officer and Salvage Officer:

A. ATKIN, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A., A.R.S.I.

Rodent Control Officer:

A. GRAVES.

C. H. CUTHBERT Chief Clerk.

G. W. HAYES

H. G. BATTRAM

} Pupil Sanitary Inspectors.

BOSTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

COUNCIL OFFICES,
126 LONDON ROAD,
BOSTON.

To the Chairman and Members of the Boston Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Smith and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Report for the year 1949.

The health of the community during 1949 has, on the whole, been very satisfactory. Although the Birth Rate has fallen a little and the Death Rate has increased slightly, the number of Births for the year exceeded the number of Deaths by 129. It is also gratifying to report a further decrease in the Infant Mortality Rate.

The number of infectious diseases notified was considerably lower than for the previous year, Measles and Chicken Pox being the most prevalent diseases. Once again there were no cases of Diphtheria notified and this excellent state of affairs has largely resulted from the fact that immunisation has been intensively carried out.

Housing and sewage disposal continue to be well to the fore-front as will be seen by a perusal of the Report, and the Council is to be congratulated on its most vigorous policy in relation to these two matters.

During the year much of the preliminary work in connection with the Clean Food Campaign was done, and it is to be hoped that the results of this work will be more evident during the coming year. In this connection I should like to pay a tribute to the Sanitary Inspector for the successful way in which he has launched the Campaign in the District.

It will be seen therefore that, as far as present conditions will allow, Public Health matters are in a very satisfactory position.

In conclusion I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all my fellow officials for their help and co-operation during the year.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Smith and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D. C. ROBERTSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

JUNE 1950.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	84,398
Population (estimated for year)	20,180
Number of inhabited houses	5,860
Rateable Value	£53,624
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£203

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

No change has occurred in the social conditions of the District during the year.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	16.3
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	26.6
Death Rate per 1,000 of the resident population (crude)	9.9
Death Rate per 1,000 of the resident population (adjusted)	10.8
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births)	2.9
Death Rates of Infants under 1 year of age :—	
(a) All infants per 1,000 live births	24.3
(b) Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	19.1
(c) Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	133.3
	Males. Females Total.
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ...	18 11 29
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ...	— — Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	— — Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	— 1 1

OBSERVATIONS ON VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION :

The Registrar-General's estimated mid-year population, 20,180 shows an increase over the figure for 1948 which was 19,430. The number of births for the year exceeded the number of deaths by 129.

BIRTHS :

A total of 329 live births (170 males, 159 females) were registered during 1949. The live birth rate of 16.3 per 1,000 is slightly lower than the figure for last year which was 18.5. The figure for the whole of England and Wales for 1949 is 16.7.

The number of illegitimate live births was 15 (8 males, 7 females) which is 4.5% of the total live births. The total illegitimate live births in 1948 was 19.

STILL BIRTHS :

There were 9 still births registered (3 males, 6 females) giving a still birth rate of 26.6 per 1,000 total live and still births. Taken as a rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population a figure of 0.44 is arrived at, which is slightly higher than the figure given by the Registrar-General for the whole of England and Wales, namely 0.39.

MATERNAL MORTALITY :

There was one death under this heading in 1949, the resulting death rate per 1,000 total live and still births being 2.9.

INFANT MORTALITY :

There were 8 deaths of infants under one year of age (2 males, 6 females). This figure includes two illegitimate children (1 male, 1 female). The death rate of 24.3 per 1,000 live births compares very favourably with the figure for last year which was 27.7, and that for the whole of England and Wales in 1949 which was 32.0.

DEATHS FROM DIARRHOEA (children under 2 years of age) :

There was one death (female) under this heading in 1949. The resulting death rate per 1,000 live births is 3.0, being the same as the figure given by the Registrar-General for the whole of England and Wales.

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES :

The actual number of deaths allocated to the District after deduction of those occurring in non-residents and addition of deaths of residents which occurred outside the District is 200. This figure gives a crude death rate of 9.9 per 1,000 of the resident population but when the Comparability Factor supplied by the Registrar-General is applied the Death Rate is 10.8. The Comparability Factor is intended to afford a means of adjustment so that different places may be compared on an equitable basis.

The figure for the whole of England and Wales for 1949 is 11.7.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

AMBULANCE SERVICE.

In accordance with the provisions of the National Health Service Act, this service is provided by the Holland County Council through the County Transport Department.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

The general organisation for home nurses is under the control of the County Medical Officer.

SCHOOL MEDICAL AND MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

These services are administered by the Holland County Council.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the responsibility for the provision of Treatment Centres and Clinics was variously delegated to the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board and the Holland County Council.

The Cleansing Station, which is under the control of the Holland County Council, continues to function at the Health Centre, and further details of cases of Scabies dealt with will be found in Section F.

LABORATORY SERVICE.

Facilities continue to be available at the Laboratory, County Hall, but with few exceptions all the tests carried out are now the responsibility of the Public Health Laboratory Service or of the Regional Hospital Board.

Samples in connection with the inspection and supervision of food are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory of the Medical Research Council at Lincoln.

The laboratories of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene, London, carry out chemical and bacteriological examinations of water samples on behalf of the Department.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948, SECTION 47—

Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

Application for a Removal Order was made to the Magistrates in respect of a person living alone and considered to be incapable of devoting to himself, and not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

After being assured by relatives of the person that they would visit him regularly to attend to his personal needs and the necessary household duties, the Magistrates decided not to grant the Order.

SECTION C.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY.

Length of water mains laid during year,	
1949	2,472 yards
Total length of mains in use during 1949	370 miles
Consumption of water in 1949	134,069,000 galls.
Average consumption per day	367,000 galls.
Number of dwelling houses served ...	5,162
Number of population served	17,012

DETAILS OF DWELLINGHOUSES SUPPLIED BY PUBLIC WATER MAINS AS AT 31.12.49.

Parish.	Dwellings.	Population.
Algarkirk	151	486
Amber Hill	127	441
Bicker	231	684
Brothertoft	133	450
Fosdyke	122	468
Frampton	323	954
Kirton	867	2646
Pelhams Land and Harts		
Grounds	26	108
Sutterton	287	1008
Swineshead	478	1719
Wigtoft	137	450
Wyberton	485	1512
Benington	130	468
Butterwick	151	459
Fishtoft	293	1127
Freiston	304	999
Leverton	171	576
Old Leake	423	1350
Wrangle	323	1107

BACTERIOLOGICAL AND CHEMICAL ANALYSIS—

During the year, 24 samples of water have been taken for analysis as follows—

Full Bacteriological (from the Water Tower at Sutterton)	7
Modified Bacteriological (from dwellings in various parishes)... ..	14
Chemical (from Water Tower at Sutterton)	2
Full Bacteriological (from the Water Tower at Fishtoft) ...	1

The results in every case proved that the water was in all respects satisfactory as a Public Supply.

Representative results of analysis are as follows—

1. FULL BACTERIOLOGICAL, taken at Water Tower, Sutterton on 3rd March, 1949.

Quantitative Enumeration of Bacteria.

On Agar Plates, kept for two days at 37°C. 1 colonies per 1 ml. developed.

On Agar Plates, kept for four days at 20°—22°C. 10 colonies per 1 ml. developed.

Examined for Special Bacteria.

Coliform bacilli absent in 100 ml.

Streptococci absent in 100 ml.

B. Enteritidis Sporogenes absent in 100 ml.

2. MODIFIED BACTERIOLOGICAL, taken at Main Road, Wigtoft on the 1st June, 1949.

Quantitative Enumeration of Bacteria.

On Agar Plates, kept for two days at 37°C. 3 colonies per 1 ml. developed.

On Agar Plates, kept for four days at 20°—22°C. 50 colonies per 1 ml. developed.

Examination for Special Bacteria.

Coliform bacilli absent in 100 ml.

3. CHEMICAL, taken at Water Tower, Sutterton, on the 13th December, 1949.

Chemical characters :	Parts per 100,000
Total solids dried at 100°C.	44.5
Loss on ignition (after re-carbonating)	10.1
Chlorine in Chlorides	2.30
Chlorine x 1.647 = Sodium Chloride	3.78
Nitrites	Trace
Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.01
Saline Ammonia	0.0012
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0044
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours at 37°C.	0.02
Hardness — Total	28.0
(Soap Test)	
„ — Temporary	17.0
„ — Permanent	11.0
Poisonous Metals — Lead	Nil.
„ „ — Copper	Nil.

SECTION D.

HOUSING AND SANITATION ETC.

HOUSING SCHEMES COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR.

Amber Hill.	Near School.	10 Houses.
Sutterton.	The Park.	10 Bungalows.
Fishtoft.	Church Green Road.	8 Houses.
Old Leake.	Hawthorne Road.	46 Airey Houses.
Fishtoft.	Fishtoft Road.	4 Houses.
Kirton.	Edinburgh Crescent.	30 Houses.
Bicker.	Lowgate.	4 Houses.
Swineshead.	Tarry Hill.	6 Bungalows.
Algarkirk.	Church Lane.	10 Houses.
Leverton.	Lacey's Lane.	8 Houses.
Wrangle.	Bull Drove.	10 Houses.
Wrangle.	Tooley Lane.	8 Houses.

No. of new houses erected during 1949 other than by Local Authority	75
No. erected by the Local Authority	163
No. of houses found to be in a state unfit for human occupation	5
No. of houses in respect of which an undertaking was signed to render the premises fit for habitation ...	2

No. of houses in respect of which an undertaking was signed that the premises would not be re-let but would be used for agricultural store purposes	2
No. of houses found to be unfit and upon which a Demolition Order was made	1
No. of houses where an undertaking was cancelled after the Owner had carried out repairs to the satisfaction of the Council	2

During the year, action under Section II, Housing Act, 1936, was enforced chiefly in respect of houses, the recent occupiers of which had been re-housed by the Council, which were considered to be unfit and not repairable at a reasonable cost.

HOUSING ACT 1936, SECTION II.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1947, SECTION 29.

HOUSING ACT 1949, SECTION 3.

In 1948, the Holland County Council made a preservation order under Section 29 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1947 in respect of a house on which a Demolition Order had been made by the Council in 1947.

Following confirmation of the Preservation Order by the Ministry of Health, this Council made an Order under Section 3 of the Housing Act 1949 that the house should not, without the consent of the Council, be used for any purpose other than that of a private dwelling house.

In December, application was made to the Council for permission to occupy the dwelling upon the execution of the repairs necessary to render the house fit for human occupation.

Permission was granted subject to the repairs being carried out to the satisfaction of the Council. The repairs are now nearing completion.

HOUSING REPAIRS.

Notices were served upon 60 owners to carry out necessary works in order to render houses fit for continued occupation. 30 of these Houses have been satisfactorily repaired, the remainder being either under repair or necessitating further notices being served upon the Owners.

BUILDING LICENCES—

15 dwellings were inspected during the year in cases where applications had been submitted for a Licence to execute repairs which amounted to over £100. In each case, it was found that the work was necessary and the Licences were issued.

HOUSING ACT 1949 — RECONDITIONING OF PROPERTY.

There has been no application for assistance under this Act for the reconditioning of property.

OVERCROWDING.

Eight cases of overcrowding were investigated during the year. Two families have been satisfactorily re-housed by the Owners; three families have been re-housed by the Council and the remaining three families are applicants for Council houses.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

1. House Scavenging.—The commencement of the year saw the Council's Scheme put into complete operation serving 5,389 of the houses within the district. The remaining 471 of the dwellings are situated in the remote parts of the District where it is uneconomical to extend the Scheme at the present time. The greater number of these are farm houses situated off the main roads and only accessible over occupation roads.

In the urbanised parts of Kirton, Frampton, Fishtoft and Wyberton, a weekly collection was put into operation and the more frequent emptying has been greatly appreciated by the ratepayers in these Parishes. The remainder of the District is served by a nine day collection.

Three 10 cubic yard vehicles and one 7 cubic yard vehicle, with a total staff of 10, are employed in carrying out this service.

The estimated cost of refuse collection per house during the year was 19/2d., which gives an estimated cost of 5¼d. per house per collection.

During the latter part of the Year, a survey was carried out in order to ascertain the number of dwellings still without proper sanitary dustbins. In the Parishes of Bicker, Swineshead, Sutterton, Wigtoft, Fosdyke and Algarkirk, comprising 1,484 houses served by the Scheme, it was found that 221 dwellings were without proper receptacles. Notices were served upon 171 Owners and a further survey showed that the number without proper sanitary dustbins had been reduced to 187 by the end of the year. These cases will be investigated and reported upon prior to Statutory Action being enforced.

Over 2,500 tons of household refuse were collected and tipped during the year. The filling in of pits has been continued during the year and the District is now becoming devoid of the unsightly areas where indiscriminate depositing of refuse had taken place prior to the Scavenging Scheme being introduced.

2. Pail Emptying.—This Section of Public Cleansing is carried out by two 750 gallon Cesspool emptying vehicles and a five-day emptying service is now in operation throughout the District. Each vehicle has a team of three men.

The unsatisfactory method of disposal of pail contents in household gardens, in many cases into open pits, is now practically eliminated. The contents are disposed of in the Boston sewer, by arrangement with the Borough Council, or on arable land made available by local farmers. During the latter part of the year, a Scheme was drawn up for the composting of straw and pail contents. Initial experiments have proved very successful and it is hoped that once the Scheme is planned to obviate any nuisance arising, then the disposal into the Boston Borough Sewer will be discontinued.

The estimated cost of this service per house during the year was £1 8s. 9½d., giving an estimated cost of 6½d. per house per collection.

3. Cesspool Emptying.—During the year, 1509 cesspools have been emptied by the Council's two Cesspool Emptying vehicles, comprising 2779 loads of cesspool effluent (approximately 2,084,750 gallons).

The emptying has been executed free upon request, except that a more frequent emptying than once yearly has been charged at a rate of 30/- per emptying for private houses and at 15/- per hour in respect of public buildings and trade premises.

360 houses and other premises have been visited on a chargeable basis, bringing in a revenue during the financial year of £539. The 1149 cesspools emptied free during the year gives an estimated cost of 18/7d. per load of effluent removed.

Despite frequent emptying by the vehicles, many cesspools within the District fail to operate efficiently. The major cause is the clay nature of the subsoil, which becomes water-logged during the winter months and prevents the effluent from soaking away. These conditions cannot be overcome without proper subsoil drainage of the land and in many cases advice has been given and conditions have been improved. In certain areas however, even subsoil drainage will not remedy the nuisance of periodic overflowing cesspools and the only solution is the installation of the Council's sewerage scheme, now lodged with and awaiting the Ministry of Health approval.

The effluent has been disposed of in Boston Borough Sewer by arrangement with the Borough Council, except during periods when it can be deposited on land by arrangements with farmers in the District.

4. Vault Emptying.—Vault lavatories have been emptied for a charge of 30/- in cases where the owners have been willing to abolish them and convert the accommodation into a pail or water closet. 40 vaults have been emptied during the year under this Scheme and the number of pail closets within the area has increased during the year by 225, indicating that many insanitary vault lavatories have been abolished.

5. Summary of Scavenging Services. — During the year, a complete survey has been carried out in order to estimate the number of houses scavenged and pails emptied in order to give a more accurate figure than that estimated in last year's Annual Report.

Parish.	No. of Houses.	Houses Scavenged.	Bins Emptied.	Pails Emptied.
Algarkirk ...	162	149	134	64
Amber Hill ...	142	125	78	32
Bicker ...	227	206	178	66
Benington ...	149	141	85	35
Brothertoft ...	147	134	112	35
Butterwick ...	145	140	122	15
Fishtoft ...	671	652	537	91
Frampton ...	322	275	182	101
Fosdyke ...	149	144	110	94
Freiston ...	307	261	179	73
Harts Grounds ...	8	—	—	—
Kirton ...	866	780	692	346
Leverton ...	190	164	122	55
Old Leake ...	466	421	279	72
Pelhams Lands	30	—	—	—
Sutterton ...	299	290	251	102
Swineshead ...	584	552	516	182
Wigtoft ...	153	143	108	63
Wrangle ...	351	324	251	80
Wyberton ...	492	488	463	161
Totals :	5860	5389	4399	1667

6. Salvage.—The embargo on Waste Paper considerably curtailed the amount of Salvage disposed of during the year. It is however gratifying to report that once again the Scheme did not show a deficit, and that £208 was contributed to the House Scavenging Service to offset collection charges.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Inspections.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	52	22	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	61	41	3	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL ...	113	63	3	Nil

Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL ...	3	3	Nil	Nil	Nil

HOME WORK.

So far as can be ascertained no outwork is undertaken in the District.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

Number licensed	...	...	...	...	...	49
Nuisances found to exist	...	...	...	...	...	5
Nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	5

There are no Caravan sites within the District and the majority of caravans licensed by the Council are provided with a satisfactory water supply, sanitary accommodation and other facilities.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ORDER, 1919 and INFESTATION ORDER, 1943.

Number of areas treated by—

Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	173
Gassing	...	...	...	...	...	10
Trapping	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.

Number of premises treated on a chargeable basis	...	...	...	35
Number of dwellinghouses treated free	...	...	...	148

INSECT INFESTATION.

During the year, the Council's Refuse Tips were periodically sprayed with Tip Dressing in order to control flies and other insect pests.

The undermentioned 10 cases of insect infestation were dealt with—

Fleas	...	...	...	...	4.
Crickets	...	...	...	...	6.

POLLUTION OF DYKES.

Further inspections have been carried out during the year in order to abate nuisances of dyke pollution by cesspools. 33 cases have been dealt with and abated.

HOUSING SEWERAGE SCHEMES.

Sewage Works have been completed during the year in the following Parishes—

Algarkirk	...	...	10 dwellings.
Butterwick	...	...	18 „
Old Leake	...	...	46 „
Wrangle	18 „

DRAIN TESTING.

No. of lengths of new drains tested and passed	...	271
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STORAGE OF PETROLEUM SPIRIT AND CARBIDE OF CALCIUM.

Register of Petroleum Licences (December, 1949).

500 Gallons or less		Over 500 Gallons but not more than 1,000 Galls.		Over 1,000 Galls.		Total
To retail		To retail		To retail		151
Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
8	105	19	7	8	6	

Register of Carbide of Calcium Licences (December, 1949).

Under 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwts.		8 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwts.		Over 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ Cwts.		Total
To retail		To retail		To retail		6
Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
—	3	—	3	—	—	

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

116 Cowkeepers and Dairies were registered by the Council prior to the repeal of the above Order in October, 1949.

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Number of Distributors of Milk registered 12.

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Number of dealers licensed for the sale of Pasteurised Milk 3

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Number of Dealers licensed for the sale of Tuberculin Tested Milk 2

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1938.

Food condemned during the year included the following—

Meat	...	...	...	...	...	...	372 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Tin of Pork Sausage	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tins of Beetroot	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Tin of Peas	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tin of Tomato Puree	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tins of Evaporated Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Packets of Bunflower	...	...	...	...	...	...	62

All the home-killed meat delivered to Butchers within the District is slaughtered at the Boston Borough Slaughterhouse, and inspected by that Authority's Sanitary Inspectors prior to it being delivered to the Butchers within the Council's area.

REGISTRATION OF FOOD PREMISES — SECTION 14.

No. of premises on register for the preparation of preserved foods	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
No. of premises on register for the manufacture of Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
No. of premises on register for the sale of Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
No. of premises on register for Fish Frying	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12

FOOD POISONING.

Total number of out-breaks	Number of Cases	Number of Deaths	Organisms or other agents responsible	Foods involved	Remarks.
1	Notified 9 Ascer- tained 13	Nil	Staphylococcus	Fish Cakes & Dried Egg (Staphylococci isolated)	This outbreak was the same as that which occurred at a school in the Borough of Boston and all the patients were children attending that school.

The two remaining cases of food poisoning which were notified during the year were both members of the same family. The food involved was suspected to be a tin of Grade III Salmon, but as it had been deposited in the dustbin it was not considered practicable to submit it for Laboratory examination.

Both patients recovered within a few days.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

	In January, 1949	In December, 1949
Licensed	7	7

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

Number of Licensed Slaughtermen on Register, December, 1949	56
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OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Licensed Premises (Knackers Yard)	1
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BAKEHOUSES.

Number on register 21

COUNTY CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN.

In January, the County Medical Officer of Health convened a Joint Conference of Medical Officers, Sanitary Inspectors and Council representatives to consider the question of food and drink infection because of the increase in the number of foodborne diseases and the fact that catering establishments had nearly doubled during the last 6 years.

Further meetings between Medical Officers of Health and Sanitary Inspectors took place and in April, 1949, the County Clean Food Campaign was drafted for adoption and administration by the District Councils and it was recommended that—

1. Codes of Practice be issued to Managements of Food Establishments, Food Handlers, Housewives and School-children.
2. Clean Food Certificates be given to Establishments whose premises and employees reached the standard of hygiene and cleanliness specified in the Codes of Practice.
3. The Campaign be sponsored by the County Council but administered directly by the District Councils.

These recommendations were approved by the County Clean Food Committee and placed before each District Council for adoption and in May, 1949, the Campaign was launched in the Council's district.

The area was surveyed and all food establishments visited. The district was then divided into six sections and a meeting arranged in each section to which all traders and Trade Associations were invited in order that the working of the Campaign could be explained and difficulties met with discussed. The number of establishments in the Council's area which come within the purview of the Clean Food Campaign is as follows—

- | | |
|----|----------------------------------|
| 4 | Cafes, Restaurants and Canteens. |
| 14 | Butchers. |
| 2 | Dairies. |
| 21 | Bakers. |
| 12 | Fish Fryers. |
| 51 | Grocers and General Stores. |
| 5 | Ice Cream Premises. |
| 7 | Sweet Shops. |
| 14 | Hotels (where food is served). |

Total Number 130.

74 Establishments have so far expressed a willingness to co-operate in the Campaign.

The Council's plan of Campaign for the coming year, includes a clean Food Exhibition Week, Lectures to Food Handlers and Organisations and discussions with Traders prior to the issue of Clean Food Certificates to the Establishments complying with the Codes of Practice.

Summary of Inspections and Visits carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors and Staff—

Housing Act, 1936	208
Public Health Act, 1936	132
Housing General	56
Overcrowding	12
Moveable Dwellings	45
Factories and Workshops	77
Stables and Piggeries	32
Nuisances	61
Infectious Diseases	111
Drainage	565
Building Licences	15
Rodent Control (including Rodent Control Officer).	1129
Dustbins (Section 75—Public Health Act, 1936) ...	1300
Refuse Tips	150
Scavenging (including Scavenging Foreman) ...	2218
Salvage (including Scavenging Foreman)	938
Insect Pests	21
Dyke Pollutions and Cesspools	96
Food Premises (other than those categorised) ...	29
Ice Cream Premises	49
Bakehouses	7
Butchers' Shops	32
Slaughterhouses	21
Dairies	24
Fish Shops	52
Grocers and General Stores	71
Miscellaneous Visits and Appointments Kept ...	180

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following infectious diseases were notified during the year. All the figures included refer to civilians only, and are corrected figures:—

Notifiable Diseases during the Year 1949.

Disease.	Cases Notified.	Confirmed Cases.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Acute Poliomyelitis	2	2	2	Nil
Chickenpox	171	171	Nil	Nil
Scarlet Fever	23	23	12	Nil
Pneumonia	17	17	1	1
Erysipelas	4	4	1	Nil
Measles	70	70	Nil	Nil
Whooping Cough	66	66	Nil	Nil
Scabies	9	9	Nil	Nil
Food Poisoning	11	11	2	Nil
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	1	1	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	1	Nil
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	3	1	Nil

With the exception of the following five diseases, the incidence of notifiable diseases is approximately comparable with the previous year:—

	1948	1949
Measles	220	70
Whooping Cough	132	66
Chickenpox	144	171
Scabies	43	9
Food Poisoning	Nil	11

Once again there has been a complete absence of cases of Diphtheria in the District. This excellent state of affairs is undoubtedly due to the fact that the great majority of children are now Immunised at an early age.

It is also interesting to note the continued decrease in the number of cases of Scabies reported, and it is to be hoped that this complaint will continue to be virtually non-existent in the area.

During the year, the Sanitary Inspectors made 111 visits in connection with investigation and control of infectious diseases and 16 disinfections were carried out.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Cases notified within the Rural District come under the control of Dr. J. Fielding, Senior Chest Physician, South Lincolnshire Chest Unit.

It has not been necessary to take action under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

The following table gives details of new cases notified and deaths occurring during the year:—

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—
15—25	2	4	1	—	—	1	—	—
25—35	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Over 65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	7	9	2	3	1	1	—	—

TREATMENT OF SCABIES.

The Holland County Council is responsible for the provision of facilities and for the cleansing of all persons requiring treatment, the cost of such treatments in respect of persons other than school children being charged to the District Council. To ensure that infected persons receive early treatment, details of all notifications received by the Health Department are immediately passed to the County Council for attention.

Total number of cases notified during the year ... 9

Treatment carried out at the Cleansing Centre:—

Children of School age 9

All persons not of School age 8

Total 17

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

All immunisation work within the District is under the jurisdiction of the Holland County Council. Below are given details of the number of children immunised during the year:—

Children under 5 years of age 255

Children between 5 and 15 years of age 22

Children between 5 and 15 years of age given
“ Booster ” courses 127

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